

Nebraska Agriculture

Fact Card

A cooperative effort of the
Nebraska Department of Agriculture
USDA, NASS, Nebraska Field Office
Nebraska Bankers Association
Nebraska AgRelations Council
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Nebraska's Top National Rankings

- 1st Commercial red meat production, 2012 – 7,284,000,000 lbs. (3,303,966,823 kg)
Commercial cattle slaughter, 2012 – 6,730,400 head
Commercial cattle slaughter, 2012, live weight – 9,163,177,000 lbs. (4,156,347,172 kg)
Great Northern beans production, 2012 – 1,087,000 cwt. (49,305,490 kg)
Irrigated land harvested, 2007 - 8,558,559 acres (3,463,525 ha)
Popcorn production, 2007 – 294,541,958 lbs. (133,601,984 kg)
- 2nd All cattle and calves, Jan. 1, 2013 – 6,300,000 head
All cattle on feed, Jan. 1, 2013 – 2,550,000 head
Pinto beans production, 2012 – 1,833,000 cwt. (83,143,481 kg)
Beef and veal exports - \$742,000,000
- 3rd Corn for grain production, 2012 – 1,292,200,000 bushels (45,535,926 m³)
Net farm income, 2011 – \$7,456,742,000
All dry edible beans production, 2012 – 3,193,000 cwt. (144,832,043 kg)
Proso millet production, 2012 - 660,000 bushels (23,257 m³)
Corn Exports - \$1,639,400,000
- 4th Cash receipts from all farm commodities, 2011 – \$21,814,979,000
Cash receipts from all crops, 2011 – \$11,754,013,000
Cash receipts from all livestock and products, 2011 – \$10,060,966,000
Land in farms and ranches, 2011 – 45,500,000 acres (18,413,196 ha)
On-farm grain storage capacity, Dec. 1, 2012 – 1,110,000,000 bushels (39,115,367 m³)
Off-farm commercial grain storage capacity, Dec. 1, 2012 – 863,470,000 bushels (30,427,879 m³)
Soybean Exports - \$1,434,900,000
- 5th Agricultural exports, 2011 – \$6,930,000,000
Soybean production, 2012 – 207,085,000 bushels (7,297,482 m³)
- 6th Harvested acres of principal crops, 2012 – 18,896,000 acres (7,646,939 ha)
All hogs and pigs on farms, Dec. 1, 2012 – 3,000,000 head
- 7th Commercial hog slaughter, 2012 – 7,889,100 head
Commercial hog slaughter, 2012, live weight – 2,154,890,000 lbs. (977,441,662 kg)
- 8th Grain sorghum production, 2012 – 3,540,000 bushels (124,746 m³)
Alfalfa hay production, 2012 – 2,272,000 tons (2,061,123,729 kg)
- 9th Winter wheat production, 2012 – 53,300,000 bushels (1,872,242 m³)
Table egg layers (flocks of 30,000+), Dec. 2012 – 9,246,000 layers
- 10th All hay production, 2012 – 4,072,000 tons (3,694,056,261 kg)

Nebraska Ag Facts

- ☐ Cash receipts from farm marketings contributed over \$21 billion to Nebraska's economy in 2011 and 5.8 percent of the U.S. total.
- ☐ Nebraska's ten leading commodities (in order of importance) for 2011 cash receipts are cattle and calves, corn, soybeans, hogs, wheat, dairy products, chicken eggs, hay, sugar beets, and dry beans, which represent 98 percent of the state's total cash receipts.
- ☐ Every dollar in agricultural exports generates \$1.34 in economic activities such as transportation, financing, warehousing, and production. Nebraska's \$6.9 billion in agricultural exports in 2011 translate into \$9.3 billion in additional economic activity. Nebraska's top five agricultural exports were corn, soybeans, other products, grain products, and hides and skins.
- ☐ Nebraska had 46,800 farms and ranches during 2011; the average operation consisted of 972 acres (393 ha); average net income per farm averaged \$92,208 during the 2007-2011 period.
- ☐ In 2012, Nebraska ranked second in ethanol production capacity, with 25 operating plants having production capacity of 2.25 billion gallons (851,717,651 dal). Over 40% of the State's 2011 corn crop was utilized in ethanol production.
- ☐ Livestock or poultry operations were found on 50% of Nebraska farms.
- ☐ The top five counties ranked by agricultural sales in 2007 were Cuming, Dawson, Custer, Phelps, and Lincoln.
- ☐ In 2008, Nebraska was eighth nationally in certified organic cropland acres (129,858) (52,551 ha) and eighth in certified organic pasture acres (53,174) (21,518 ha).

Nebraska's Natural Resources

- ☐ Nebraska's farms and ranches utilize 45.5 million acres – 93% of the state's total land area.
- ☐ Nebraska is fortunate to have aquifers below it. If poured over the surface of the state, the water in those aquifers would have a depth of 37.9 feet. The state has 93,557 registered, active irrigation wells supplying water to over 8.5 million acres of harvested cropland and pasture. Of the total cropland harvested during 2007, 46 percent was irrigated.
- ☐ Nearly 24,000 miles of rivers and streams add to Nebraska's bountiful natural resources.
- ☐ There are nearly 23 million acres (9,307,806 ha) of rangeland and pastureland in Nebraska – half of which are in the Sandhills.

*Source: USDA ERS and USDA NASS, Nebraska Field Office
(More detailed list of rankings available from USDA NASS,
Nebraska Field Office (Phone (402) 437-5541)*